

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :  
Kazuhiko MATSUMURA et al. : **Attn: APPLICATION BRANCH**  
Serial No. NEW : Attorney Docket No. 2003\_1003A  
Filed July 29, 2003 :  
METHOD FOR PRODUCING AN OPTICALLY  
ACTIVE  $\beta$ -AMINO ACID

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**Prior to calculating the filing fee**, please amend the above-identified application as follows: